



CONFIDENTIAL.]

REPORT

OF

[No. 45 of 1882.]

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 11th November 1882.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Monthly.				
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī"	Calcutta ...	2,100	
Fortnightly.				
2	"Bhārat Hitaishī"	Burrisal ...	.....
3	"Sansodhinī"	Chittagong ...	600	
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	.....
5	"Jātiya Suhrid"	Calcutta ...	.....
6	"Tripurā Vārtāvaha"	Commillah ...	.....
Weekly.				
7	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Ditto ...	700	
8	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....	3rd November 1882.
9	"Bangabāsi"	Ditto ...	.....	4th ditto.
10	"Bārtābaha"	Pubna ...	.....
11	"Bhārat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....	4th ditto.
12	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensing ...	671	
13	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000	
14	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	
15	"Chāruvārtā"	Sherepore, Mymensing	.....
16	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	350	
17	"Dūt"	Calcutta ...	.....
18	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	10th ditto.
19	"Grāmvārtā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly ...	.....
20	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta ...	.....	4th ditto.
21	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye...	200	
22	"Medinī"	Midnapore ...	.....
23	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ...	487	
24	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
25	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta ...	850	6th ditto.
26	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	.....
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	275	
28	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah ...	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	250	
30	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah ...	500	5th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	8th ditto.
32	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs.	.....	6th ditto.
33	"Sudhākar"	Mymensing ...	.....
34	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta ...	4,000	4th ditto.
35	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet ...	440	
Daily.				
36	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Calcutta ...	700	4th to 7th November 1882.
37	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	4th to 8th ditto.
38	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	4th to 7th ditto.
39	"Banga Vidya Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	6th to 9th ditto.
40	"Prabhāti"	Ditto ...	.....
41	"Samāchār Sudhābarsan"	Ditto ...	.....
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
Weekly.				
42	"Urdu Guide"	Ditto ...	365	

No.	Names of newspapers.				Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	
HINDI.								
Weekly.								
43	"Behár Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna	...	500	6th November 1882.
44	"Bhárat Mitra"	...	...	...	Calcutta	...	500
45	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	...	...	...	Ditto	...	200
46	"Uchit Baktá"	...	...	...	Ditto	...	.....
PERSIAK.								
Weekly.								
47	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Ditto	...	250	10th ditto.
URDU.								
Weekly.								
48	"Akhbár-i-Darussaltanat"	Ditto	
Bi-Weekly.								
49	"Amir-ul-Akhbár"	...	...	...	Ditto	...	.....
ASSAMESE.								
Monthly.								
50	"Assam Vilásiní"	Sibsagar	28th October 1882. 15th ditto.
URIYA.								
Weekly.								
51	"Utkal Dípiká"	...	...	...	Cuttack	...	200
52	"Utkal Darpan"	...	...	...	Balasore	...	160
53	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	...	...	...	Ditto	...	125
54	"Purusottam Patriká"	Pooree	
Fortnightly.								
55	"Mayurbhunj Pákshik Pátriká"	...	...	...	Mayurbhunj	...	.....
HINDI.								
Monthly.								
56	"Kshatriya Patriká"	...	...	...	Patna	...	.....

POLITICAL.

REFERRING to the trial of Arabi, the *Bangabási*, of the 4th November, Arabi Pasha. observes that Arabi cannot be blamed for having taken up arms against the British. He did what every patriot would do under the circumstances. There is but little difference between him and Kossuth, and it is to be hoped that under the administration of Mr. Gladstone his life will be spared.

BANGABASI,
November 4th, 1882.

2. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 6th November, contains an article headed the "Curious Results of the Egyptian War." We give below the substance: Who shall reap the benefits of the Egyptian War? The English say that they have fought for the Khedive and the people of Egypt. In that case the Khedive and the people of Egypt must be the gainers. But no such thing. The Egyptians have not gained the least by this war, whilst the Khedive is merely a puppet gaudily dressed. All real authority will remain in the hands of the British. The people of Egypt have not been in the least gratified by the restoration of the Khedive whom they look upon as a tool of the British Government. Is it consonant to justice that an unpopular ruler should be thus thrust upon a nation? Another question: the trial of Arabi has commenced and he has been marked out as a victim; but wherein has he been guilty? He is not a rebel as the British Government declares him to be. In rising against a foreign nation which under the cover of the Khedive's name was seeking to take away the independence of Egypt, Arabi did not act as a rebel. Even the charge of violating international law and treaty obligations cannot be brought against him. Even if he were open to this charge he could not still be regarded as a rebel. European potentates frequently set aside treaty engagements at their pleasure, but are not considered rebels.

SOM PRAKASH,
November 6th, 1882.

3. The same paper observes that there is a marked difference of opinion noticeable as to the result of British rule in India. While one party finds everything bad in the British administration, another sees nothing but good in it. The fact, however, is, both parties are equally wrong. As regards the security of life and property, means of communication and trade, British rule possesses a decided superiority to the Mahomedan Government which preceded it, but there still exist many wants and shortcomings. For these, however, it is not the British Government that is solely responsible, their existence is in a large measure due to the lack of energy and self-reliance on the part of the people of this country.

SOM PRAKASH.

4. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 6th November, contains an article on the trial of Arabi. The editor does not see what the British Government expects to gain by this trial. Arabi is no longer in a position to threaten the political supremacy of the British Government in Egypt. Whether he spends the remaining days of his life in solitary exile or is sentenced to be executed by a legal tribunal is a matter which cannot now in the least affect the interests of England. Why then does England attach so much importance to his trial? Possibly she has a suspicion that the trial will reveal matters in which both the Sultan and the Khedive will be found to have been implicated. The writer concludes by expressing a hope that Arabi will not be executed.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
November 6th, 1882.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

5. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 3rd November, after dwelling upon the injurious consequences, such as the diminution of the fertility of the soil, the malarious

ARYA DARPAN,
November 3rd, 1882.

Re-excavation of silted up rivers.

fever, and the decrease in the supply of fish, that have followed from the construction of railways and many large embankments in the districts of Hooghly and Burdwan, directs the attention of Government to the desirability of re-excavating certain silted-up river-beds near Culna. The whole subject should receive the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor.

ARYA DARPAH.
November 3rd, 1882.

6. The same paper notices an increase of drunkenness among the agricultural population of the Culna division of the Burdwan district. There are four outstills within a distance of five miles from Culna.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
November 4th, 1882.

7. The *Samachar Chandrika*, of the 4th November, condemns the new selection of text-books in Sanskrit for the F. A. and B. A. examinations of the Calcutta University. The *Harsha Charita* which has been appointed for the F. A. course is a very inferior composition wanting in lucidity. Good manuscripts of, and commentaries on, the work are rare in Bengal. The printed copies abound in error. The latter portion of the *Kadamvari* is appointed for the B. A. test. It would be really interesting to learn what could have led to the selection of this portion of the work. It is well known that the former portion of the *Kadamvari* is decidedly superior as a literary composition to the latter.

BHARAT BANDHU,
November 4th, 1882.

8. The *Bharat Bandhu*, of the 4th November, contains an article on Prisoners in Jails. The writer dwells upon the hardship to which prisoners subjected during the period of incarceration. They are allowed bad and insufficient food, and overworked. The result is disease, and in many cases death.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
November 4th, 1882.

9. The *Halisahar Prakashika*, of the 4th November, notices a fearful outbreak of cholera in Chitpore in the northern suburbs of Calcutta among the operatives employed in the several mills of that locality. The Health Officer, it is complained, is quite inattentive to the sanitary requirements of Chitpore.

SADHARANI,
November 5th, 1882.

10. The *Sadharani*, of the 5th November, refers to a rumour that the bridge on the river below Hooghly, which is shortly to be constructed, will not be open to passengers or carriages, and remarks that, if that be the case, the work will not in the least benefit the people of this country. The Railway Company, of course, will be the gainers. The people on the other hand will suffer. The current below Hooghly will be more rapid than at present, and navigation by boats will be rendered very unsafe. Would it not be better for the Railway Company to allow passengers to use the bridge and levy a toll from them? It is to be hoped Government will attend to this matter.

SADHARANI.

11. A correspondent of the same paper directs the attention of Government to the fact that in Halisahar, within an area of five to six square miles, there exist as many outstills. This is opposed to the provisions of the Board's rules, and has led to a fearful increase of drunkenness.

SOM PRAKASH,
November 6th, 1882.

12. In an article on the recent Resolution of the Government of India on the subject of remission of land revenue during periods of exceptional distress, the *Som Prakash*, of the 6th November, makes the following observations:—We cordially approve of the proposals made by Government in this connection. There is, however, this to be observed, that direct land settlements with the ryots are not suited to the circumstances of this country. The rents have been gradually enhanced on a scale which has brought great hardship upon the ryots. The deplorable results of these

proceedings are well known to local officials. There will be no improvement in the condition of the ryots until there is an amendment of the Settlement Law. Direct Government settlements have in all cases been productive of great hardship. Oppressed by the zemindar, the ryot may seek the protection of the law courts, but where will he find refuge if Government itself turns an oppressor? In Bengal, khas settlements are comparatively few in number. Last year the collections in the khas mehals were not satisfactory. The Lieutenant-Governor has expressed his dissatisfaction at this. The Board of Revenue has not disclosed the true cause of this state of matters, and it is certain that it will not do so. The cause of course is the indiscreetness of the officials entrusted with the task of collection.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
November 6th, 1882.

13. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Navavibhakar*, of the 6th November:—It is needless to observe that we fully approve of the proposals made by Lord Ripon in connection with the subject of the collection of land revenue. We do not express this opinion after a careful examination of the whole subject, but the suggestions put forth by Government have our general approval. We have repeatedly stated that the extreme rigor of the land revenue law is one of the causes of the poverty of the people. The subordinate officers of Government collect revenue in utter disregard of the condition of those who pay it. Until Lord Ripon thoroughly keeps these officers in check, and impresses upon them a sense of duty, there will be no improvement in the condition of the people.

Remission of land revenue.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

14. The same paper is exceedingly thankful to Lord Ripon for his desire to give increased publicity to the Acts and Bills of the Legislative Council of the Government of India, and for his seeking the co-operation of the native press in this work. It, however, behoves His Excellency to go a little further in this matter and take in hand the work of re-constituting the Legislative Council. The one or two native members chosen from among men possessed of the advantages of wealth and high connections who now sit in that Council cannot properly be regarded as representative men. Being nominees of Government they cannot always act with sufficient independence. It has therefore become desirable to gradually introduce the elective system in the Legislative Council. It might for instance be laid down that the chief municipalities in the country composed of elected members should have the power of electing a fixed portion of the entire number of members of the Legislative Council. The editor cordially approves of the arrangements proposed by Government for securing a wider publicity for the proceedings of the Legislative Council, and asks that the printed proceedings should be furnished to all native editors and local associations; and as regards the supply of official information, the former should be placed on the same footing with editors of Anglo-Indian papers. The writer further dwells upon the desirability of fixing the minimum period which must intervene between the date of introduction of a Bill in the Legislative Council and that of passing it into law.

Publication of Acts and Bills.

SAHACHAR,
November 8th, 1882.

15. The *Sahachar*, of the 8th November, remarks that the practice and the professions of Government do not always agree. This is notably the case in the matter of free trade. The rulers constantly preach free trade principles to the people of this country and Lord Ripon has repealed all import duties. But while this is the case as regards India, a Liberal Government with Mr. Gladstone at its head levies in England a high rate of duty on Indian

Free trade in England.

tea, coffee, cotton, silk goods, and gold and silver. This really passes comprehension.

SANACHAR,
November 5th, 1882.

16. While condemning the wholesale denunciation of native papers contained in certain recent articles in the

Native papers and local officers.

Indian Daily News newspaper on the alleged ground that native editors make comments on cases which are *sub-judice* and use objectionable language in writing of local officials, the same paper remarks that the charges thus brought against the native press are not altogether groundless. There are certain writers who are but too prone to attack magisterial and police officers, simply because they are magisterial and police officers. These writers do not, it seems, appreciate the hard and conscientious work done by the officers, or take into account the many circumstances that constantly occur to needlessly take up their valuable time and try their temper. The press should deal leniently by them and not play the rôle of an obstructive. It behoves native editors to think of the high privileges which they as members of the press enjoy under British rule, and to bear in mind that the liberty of the press throws certain duties and responsibilities upon its members.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
October 28th, 1882.

17. The *Utkal Dipikā*, of the 28th October 1882, makes the following remarks in reference to the decision of the

The police and courts.

High Court in the case of Madhub Chundra

Rath, appellant, *versus* The Empress, respondent. The proper work of the police is to preserve the peace and cause criminals to appear at the appointed courts. Unfortunately many police officers, forgetting their duties, cause the innocent to be brought before the court and punished, and in various other ways display their illegal authority. The police is therefore everywhere in bad repute. It is also to be regretted that Magistrates, instead of keeping a sharp eye on the work of the police, are often influenced by it. The oppressions committed by the police are thus aggravated rather than diminished. Within the last few months three persons were brought before the criminal court by the Balasore Police on the charge of giving false information. They were convicted by the local Hakim, but were all acquitted on appeal to the High Court. The ruling of the High Court in the case referred to above is published below. It is sufficient to say that the judgment of the High Court is highly commendable. Considering the existence of a vast amount of police oppression at the present time the High Court deserves hundreds of thanks for this decision. The highest tribunal in the land has justly said that the Cuttack (Orissa) Police are allowed undue prominence in the prosecution and conduct of cases and in appearing as witnesses, and that the Hakims improperly allowed the police to give expression to their opinions, &c.

It is desirable that magisterial officers should always bear in mind this decision of the High Court and act accordingly. They should remember that in many cases of theft, &c., where the police cannot detect the thief, in order to conceal their own shortcomings, they apply to the complainant the birdlime of the "211th clause of the Penal Code", and so terrify him that he is rendered positively unable to give a true statement of the charge. It is not uncommon for the police, in order to punish their enemies, to mix them up in a lawsuit. In cases of importance it is very desirable that magisterial officers should carefully watch the proceedings of the Police.

UTKAL DARPANA,
October 15th, 1882.

18. The *Utkal Darpana*, of the 15th October, observes that it is

Proposal to secure increased publicity for Acts and Bills.

desirable that the public should take up the proposal of Government to secure increased publicity for its legislative measures, and discuss the best means for giving

effect to it. It is to be hoped that the Cuttack Association and the Balasore National Society will take up the subject, and express upon it their views, which will not be unacceptable to the Government of India, inasmuch as it has intimated that the opinion of native associations ought to be consulted. Besides there are four newspapers at present published in Orissa which should exhort the public to discuss the question.

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Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 11th November 1882.

